

Iraqi civilian population and depriving it of humanitarian assistance. The United Nations Security Council passed resolutions that permit Iraq to sell \$1.6 billion of oil under U.N. auspices to fund the provision of food, medicine, and other humanitarian supplies to the people of Iraq. Under the U.N. resolutions, the equitable distribution within Iraq of this assistance would be supervised and monitored by the United Nations. The Iraqi regime continued to refuse to accept these resolutions and has thereby chosen to perpetuate the suffering of its civilian population.

The regime of Saddam Hussein continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States, as well as to regional peace and security. Because of Iraq's failure to comply fully with United Nations Security Council resolutions, the United States will therefore continue to apply economic sanctions to deter Iraq from threatening peace and stability in the region, and I will continue to report periodically to the Congress on significant developments, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c).

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
February 16, 1993.

### **Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With the Congressional Leadership**

*February 17, 1993*

#### **Economic Program**

**Q.** Mr. President, if you count Social Security as a tax increase, you don't have a one-to-one ratio. Are you going to have enough cuts in this program to be able to sell this thing?

**The President.** I think so. There are 150 specific ones, and I'll be glad to entertain some more if anybody's got any specific ideas.

**The Vice President.** At this point——

**Q.** Can you honestly say, as Senator Dole has asked, that you have made all the cuts you could possibly make in this program?

**The President.** I can honestly say I've made more specific cuts that affect me per-

sonally than I can think that any of my predecessors have made and that I intend to find more as I go along. I've just been here 4 weeks, and I'll continue to work on it. But I've made an awful lot of cuts; I'm going to make some more.

**Q.** Have you convinced Senator Dole and Michel and all of the other Republican leaders? And did you call Ross Perot?

**The President.** My duty is to try to convince them that I will.

**The Vice President.** In the words of the old hymn, "they're almost persuaded."

**The President.** I thought that was a country and western song. [Laughter]

**Q.** They don't look it.

**Q.** How about Ross Perot, Mr. President?

#### **Jogging Track**

**Q.** Why build a jogging track when you're making cuts across the board in Government?

**The President.** I thought the thing was going to be paid for with contributions; that's what I was told. I think it would be a good thing to have but I think if we can pay for it with contributions, otherwise I don't think we ought to spend any tax money on it.

**Q.** You don't have an alternative way to pay for it?

**The President.** I was told that the stuff had been donated already. I told them if it was all going to be donated, it was fine with me if it was built. That's what I was told from the very beginning, so that's all I know about it.

NOTE: The exchange began at 2:22 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.

### **Address Before a Joint Session of Congress on Administration Goals**

*February 17, 1993*

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, Members of the House and the Senate, distinguished Americans here as visitors in this Chamber, as am I. It is nice to have a fresh excuse for giving a long speech. [Laughter]